

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. **(Currently Amended)** Digital printing or copying machine (1) for one-sided or double-sided printing on a substrate (5) while using at least one toner, with at least one fixation device (3) for fixing the toner image on the substrate (5), wherein the fixation device (3) has at least one heating device (13) for melting the toner image, past which the substrate (5) can be taken, characterized by a guide device (17) for the free floating movement of the substrate (5) in the effective range of the heating device (13), said guide device (17) having a holding device (67) which can be moved in and against the transport direction (11) of the substrate (5) by which the substrate (5) can be grabbed in the region of its front edge or back edge.

2. **(Original)** Printing or copying machine per Claim 1, characterized in that the floating condition of the substrate (5) can be achieved by at least one air cushion acting on the topside (7) having the toner image being fixed and/or the underside (9) of the substrate (5).

3. **(Currently Amended)** Printing or copying machine according to Claim 1, characterized in that the guide device (17) has at least a first blowing device (19) to create a first air cushion on the substrate's underside (9), wherein the first blowing device (19) comprises at least one nozzle, which can be directed against the substrate underside (9), for applying pressurized air (21) to the substrate (5), the pressurized air (21) having at least one directional component directed perpendicular to the substrate underside (9) and one directional component directed in the transport direction (11) of the substrate (5).

4. **(Cancelled)**

5. **(Original)** Printing or copying machine according to Claim 1, characterized in that the first blowing device (19) comprises a first base plate (25), oriented parallel to or essentially parallel to the transport path of the substrate (5), having several through openings and/or slots, each of which forms a nozzle.

6. **(Original)** Printing or copying machine according to Claim 1, characterized in that the substrate topside (7) containing the toner being fixed can be struck with hot air (15) in order to melt the toner image by the heating device (13).

7. **(Currently Amended)** Printing or copying machine according to Claim 4, characterized in that the guide device (17) comprises at least one second blowing device (31) to create a second air cushion on the topside (7) of the substrate (5), containing the toner image being fixed, and opposite the heating device (13).

8. **(Original)** Printing or copying machine according to Claim 7, characterized in that the second blowing device (31) comprises at least one second base plate (33) oriented to or essentially parallel to the transport path of the substrate (5), having several through openings (37) and/or slots, each of them forming a nozzle.

9. **(Original)** Printing or copying machine according to Claim 8, characterized in that the heating device (13) is formed by a radiative device (24), by which the substrate (5) can be exposed to electromagnetic radiation, and the second base plate (33) is arranged in the radiation path between the radiative device (24) and the substrate (5).

10. **(Original)** Printing or copying machine according to Claim 9, characterized in that a protection plate (41) without through openings is arranged in the radiation path between the radiative device (24) and the second base plate (33).

11. **(Original)** Printing or copying machine according to Claim 10, characterized in that the second base plate (33) and the protection plate (41) are formed of a transparent material which is permeable to the electromagnetic radiation emitted by the radiative device (24) in the switched on state.

12. **(Original)** Printing or copying machine according to Claim 10, characterized in that the free space (43) between the protection plate (41) and the second base plate (33) can be exposed to pressurized air.

13. **(Currently Amended)** Printing or copying machine according to Claim 1, characterized in that the heating device (13) comprises at least one microwave resonator (49), which has a ~~slitlike~~ slit-like opening (51), through which the substrate (5) is taken free floating, and in the microwave resonator (49) there is integrated at least one blowing device to create an air cushion on the topside and/or underside of the substrate (5).

14. **(Cancelled)**

15. **(Currently Amended)** Printing or copying machine according to Claim 1, characterized in that the holding device (67) has a strip (77) extending transverse to the substrate's transport direction (11), which has at least one preferably ~~slitlike~~ slit-like opening (79), which can be exposed to a partial vacuum.

16. **(Cancelled)**

17. **(Cancelled)**

18. **(Cancelled)**

19. **(Cancelled)**

20. **(Cancelled)**

21. **(Cancelled)**

22. **(Cancelled)**

23. **(Currently Amended)** Printing or copying machine according to Claim 13, characterized in that the ~~slitlike~~ slit-like opening (51) of the microwave resonator (49) is bounded by at least one perforated plate (57, 63).

24. **(Original)** Printing or copying machine according to Claim 23, characterized in that the perforated plate (57, 63) is made from a material with low microwave absorption.

25. **(Cancelled)**

26. **(Original)** Printing or copying machine according to Claim 1, characterized in that a cooling device with preferably noncontact operation with respect to the substrate is arranged after the heating device.